

REMARKS

Claims 31-49 were pending in this application. Claims 31-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,703,946 to Flick in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,006,100 to Koenck, that combination in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,918,172 to Saunders, and that combination in further view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0077750 to McDonald. Claims 31-41 have been canceled. Applicant assumes from the remarks that the Office intended to extend this rejection to claims 42-49.

Independent claim 42 has been amended to recite that the hub is in direct wireless communication with the global positioning device, the subsystem indicator, and a portable computer. The Office contends that Flick shows in FIG. 2 a communication device 44 and a hub 40. This is a departure from previous Office actions, in which the Office characterized the hub as element 27 and the communication device as receiver 29. Regardless, the communications device 44 is not a portable computer, nor did the Office in its discussion of claim 42 address how the controller 40 wirelessly communicates with devices inside and outside of the vehicle.

Moreover, the Office acknowledged that Flick does not teach that the communication device 44 is mobile with respect to the vehicle, but posited that one of ordinary skill would “utilize the teachings of Koenck with the teachings as in Flick” to somehow arrive at the claimed invention. Office Action, page 4. Applicant respectfully requests that if the four-reference combination is maintained, the Office explain whether one of ordinary skill would (1) substitute a portable transceiver in place of Flick’s hard-wired communication device 44, or (2) further modify the communication device in some way.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant’s undersigned representative with any further questions. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

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